

# Potential Lower Elevation Snow Tuesday Night into Wednesday

#### National Weather Service - Medford, OR

Issued: 245 pm Monday, February 1st, 2021

**Next Update:** As needed.

#### **KEY POINTS**

- Snow levels: Up around 4000-5000 feet today will drop to 3000 feet on Tuesday, then fall to around 2000 feet Tuesday night into Wednesday morning west of the Cascades.
- Rain will likely change to snow over some of the passes on I-5 north of Medford (esp Sexton Summit) Tuesday night into Wednesday morning. This could bring 1-4 inches of snow in those areas. There is a relatively low probability (<20% chance) that snow amounts exceed 4 inches if heavier precipitation rates are sustained during this time period, but it's more likely to be showery.
- Snow levels could lower to around 1500 feet at times late Tuesday night into Wednesday morning in heavier showers. This could bring some snow accumulation in places like Hayes Hill/Camas Mtn/Jacksonville Hill and the other passes (Canyon Creek, Smith Hill, Stage Road) north of Medford.
- Wet snow may also mix in at times Wednesday morning down to the valley floors, but warm ground temperatures should preclude accumulation.
- Expect periods of snow and hazardous driving conditions in the mountains and over the East Side, but also over the higher passes like Siskiyou Summit, Lake of the Woods and around Mount Shasta.

## **Timing and Impact Threat Level**

Tuesday 2/2	Tuesday night 2/2-2/3	Wednesday  Morning  2/3	Wednesday afternoon 2-3	Wednesday night 2/3 - 2/4	Thursday 2/4
Snow level lowers to 3000 feet.	Snow likely above 2000 feet.	Snow likely above 2000 feet.	Snow showers tapering off.	Clearing and colder.	Dry.

Weather Impacts Legend	None	Low	Medium	High	Extreme
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#### **CONFIDENCE**

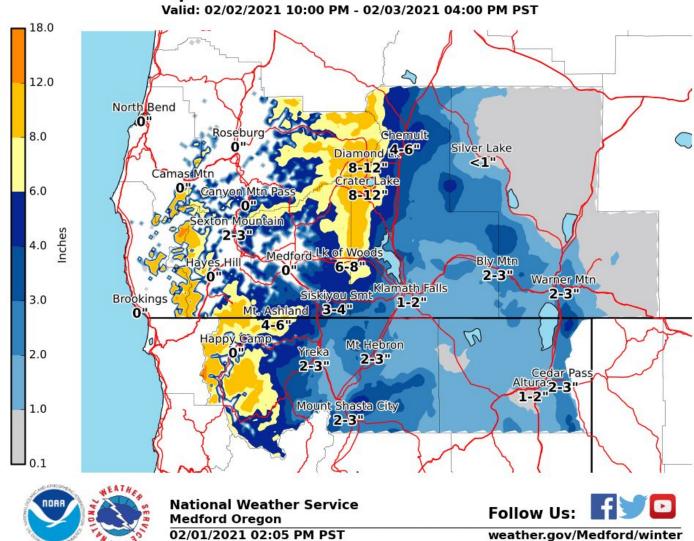
70% Chance or greater. (High)	<ul> <li>Rain changing to snow above 2000 feet Tuesday night.</li> <li>Snow covered roads for some higher passes north of Medford.</li> <li>Periods of snow over the mountains, higher passes, East Side.</li> </ul>
40 to 60% chance. (Medium)	<ul> <li>Rain changing to snow down to 1500 feet by Wednesday morning.</li> <li>Some snow accumulation possible on roads like at Hayes Hill, Camas Mountain and Jacksonville Hill.</li> </ul>
Less than 40% Chance.	Any snow occurring below 1500 feet (no accumulation).

#### **SUMMARY**

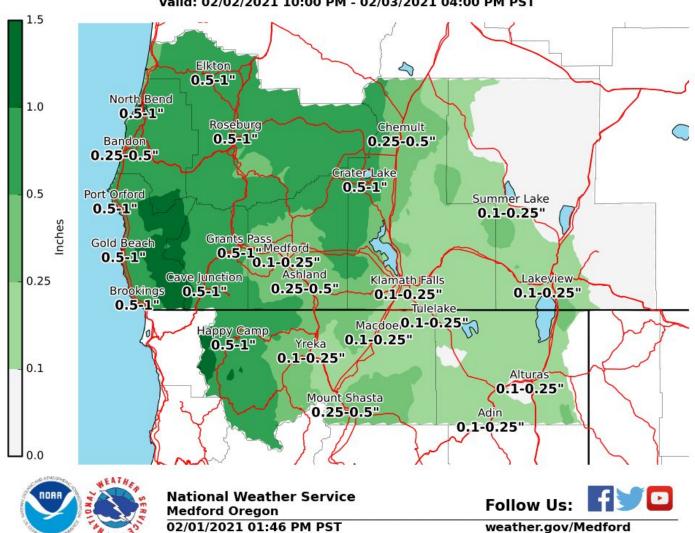
After today and tonight's mostly rain storm west of the Cascades, another low pressure system will move southward through the area Tuesday night into Wednesday. This storm will be colder and snow levels will drop to around 2000 feet over the west side. This will bring the potential for lower elevation snow, especially to the passes north of Medford, including Sexton Summit on I-5. Precipitation is expected to be showery, so sustained heavy precipitation rates are unlikely. But, there can be periods of heavier precipitation that could bring the snow level down to 1500 feet by Wednesday morning. This could result in some light accumulations at Camas Mountain, Hayes Hill and Jacksonville Hill. Some wet snow could also mix in for a while at the valley floors, but we're not expecting accumulation due to warmer ground temperatures. In addition, snow is expected over the higher passes, the east side and the mountains, so see the graphics below for amounts specific to your area and as always, please see our <u>forecast discussion</u> for more detailed information. If you have additional questions about your specific area, please call us.

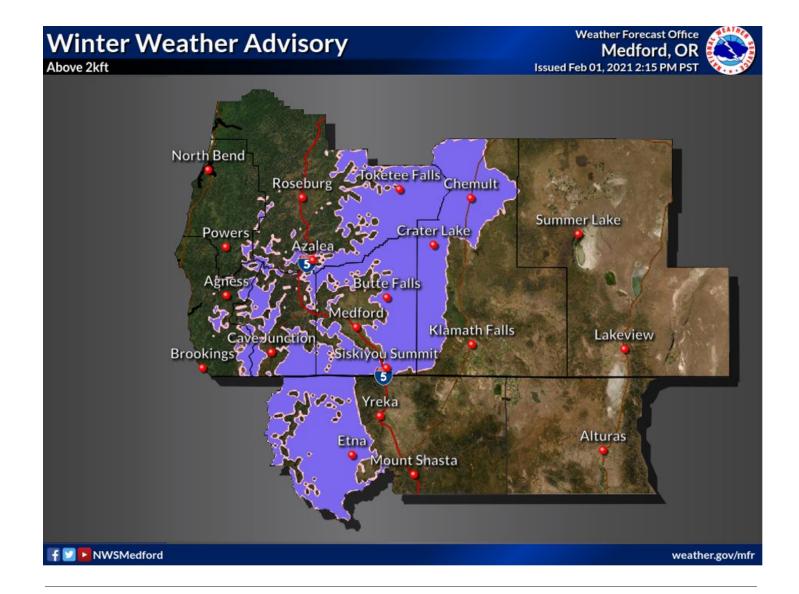
#### **FORECAST GRAPHICS**

### Expected Snowfall - Official NWS Forecast



# Storm Total Rain Valid: 02/02/2021 10:00 PM - 02/03/2021 04:00 PM PST





For the latest updates, visit <u>www.weather.gov/medford</u> or <u>Transportation page</u> for the latest snowfall, wind, and precipitation graphics.